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Armstrong Faculty Senate Minutes

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August 15, 2011 AASU Faculty Senate Minutes

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Armstrong Atlantic State University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes of August 15, 2011
Science Center 1407, 3:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER: Senate President LeFavi called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm. Please see **Appendix A** for a roster of attendees.

Senate Action

- I. Approval of Minutes from May 2, 2011, Faculty Senate Meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the May minutes. The motion passed.
- II. Approval of Senate Standing Committees. Prior to the vote, Dr. Andi Beth Mincer, Chair of the Elections Committee, explained the process by which the committees are formed and noted one change to the Planning, Budget, and Facilities committee, i.e., Dr. Bryan Riemann is replacing Dr. Sara Plasphol. A motion was made and seconded to approve the committee rosters as amended. The motion passed.
- III. Ad Hoc Committee Resolution on Faculty Compensation and Budget (See **Appendix B**). Dr. LeFavi's introduction of the resolution was followed by a brief statement by President Bleicken concerning potential changes to the resolution. Senators, in consultation with Mr. Carson and President Bleicken, proposed amendments that reflected the faculty desire for detailed, but manageable, budgetary data and the administration's willingness to share detailed information. Dr. Bleicken confirmed that she fully supported the final resolution. The motion was made and seconded to approve the resolution as amended. The motion passed.
- IV. Bill on Graduation and Commencement Procedures (See **Appendix C**). Dr. Scott Mateer introduced the bill, expressing faculty concern for the modifications made to the May 2011 graduation and commencement ceremony. Discussion ensued regarding the logistical complications relating to the change from organizing students according to their majors to an alphabetical arrangement, with President Bleicken and Dr. Thompson expressing their interest in creating a dialog between faculty and the administration about future ceremonies. It was suggested that the matter be referred to the university's commencement committee. A motion was made and seconded to approve the bill without amendment. The motion passed.

Senate Information

- V. Dr. LeFavi requested that senators who serve on the senate Standing Committees should call meetings within the next 30 days in order to elect committee chairs.

- VI. Dr. LeFavi reported on the approval by President Bleicken of Senate Bill 048.10/11: Presidential Approval of Graduate Affairs Committee Actions.
- VII. Professor Carpenter, Senate Vice President, informed the senate of the recharges that will be given by Dr. LeFavi to (1) the Academic Standards Committee to consider the university's excused absences policy and the use of Turnitin.com; (2) the Faculty Welfare Committee to examine the effectiveness of EFACE and to propose modifications to its implementation; and (3) the Constitution and Bylaws Committee to consider whether it is necessary for faculty to vote this fall on the changes that were made to the Graduate Affairs Committee bylaws.
- VIII. Professor Carpenter discussed the charge that will be given to the Committee on Committees to explore the possibility of modifying their bylaws so that the committee will be given the authority to monitor and report upon the actions taken by other senate committees in addressing the charges given to them by the Steering Committee or the Senate President.
- IX. Dr. LeFavi reported on the progress made by Dr. Plasphol and her committee on developing a campus-wide tobacco policy and invited all interested senators to contact him should they wish to be involved in the process of drafting legislation on this matter.
- X. Dr. Anne Thompson was invited to discuss the distribution of summer funds to departments and the summer payment schedule. She explained that financial figures from the recent summer term were not available, but that a comparative analysis has shown that summer 2011 was less productive than summer 2010. Modification of the enrollment threshold for this past summer was noted as a factor for consideration. Dr. Thompson expressed her willingness to report on summer revenue after the financial figures have been studied. Regarding summer pay dates, Mr. Carson noted that the dates were restricted by ADP, but that his office will request earlier dates in the future.

Dr. LeFavi asked Dr. Thompson for assurances that faculty members who normally teach scheduled summer courses would be given a right of first refusal to teach those courses over less expensive part-time or adjunct faculty. Dr. Thompson stated that summer courses would be based on a department's priorities.

- XI. Dr. John Kraft was invited to provide an update on the Faculty Handbook and Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). He indicated that once he receives approval from one additional administrative office, he will present the new draft of the Faculty Handbook to the senate. He also announced the QEP topic (First Year Experience with an Emphasis on Information Literacy), and explained the process by which the plan will be prepared for SACS review. Initially, a QEP committee will be formed.


Announcements

- XII. Dr. Tatlock announced that the next senate meeting will take place on September 19, 2011.
- XIII. Upon a request from Dr. Wayne Johnson, Mr. Lee Davis, University Counsel, provided an update on the search for a CIO. Dr. Johnson suggested the search committee have more faculty representation.
- XIV. Additional announcements were made from the floor relating to Faculty Development, the Faculty Lecture Series, and Common Read.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Jason R. Tatlock
Faculty Senate Secretary

Appendix A

I. Senators Present

Depart.	Name	Present	Alt.	Present
AAED	Regina Rahimi	X	Rona Tyger	
AAED	Ed Strauser	X	Lynn Long	
AAED	Ellen Whitford	X	Lynn Roberts	
AMT	Angela Ryczkowski Horne	X	Randall Reese	
AMT	Stephen Primatic		Rachel Green	X
AMT	Pamela Sears	X	Deborah Jamieson	
BIO	Alex Collier	X	Sara Gremillion	
BIO	Austin Francis	X	Kathryn Craven	
BIO	Scott Mateer	X	Traci Ness	
CESE	Beth Childress	X	Glenda Ogletree	
CESE	Jackie Kim	X	Barbara Hubbard	
CHEM/PHYS	William Baird	X	Brent Feske	
CHEM/PHYS	Suzy Carpenter	X	Richard Wallace	
CHEM/PHYS	Clifford Padgett	X	Todd Hizer	
CJSPS	Ned Rinalducci	X	Dennis Murphy	
CJSPS	Michael Donohue	X	Alison Hatch	
CSDS	Maya Clark	X	April Garrity	
CSIT	Daniel Liang	X	Frank Katz	
ECON	Jason Beck	X	Yassaman Saadatmand	
ENGR	Wayne Johnson	X	Priya Goeser	
HIST	June Hopkins	X	Chris Hendricks	
HIST	Jason Tatlock	X	Allison Belzer	
HSCI	Bob LeFavi	X	Rod McAdams	
HSCI	Bryan Rieman	X	Alice Adams	
LIB	Beth Burnett	X	Ann Fuller	
LLP	Hans-Georg Erney	X	Monica Rausch	
LLP	Beth Howells	X	Richard Bryan	
LLP	Dorothee Mertz-Weigel	X	Carol Jamison	

LLP	Ana Torres	X	Edwin Richardson	X
MATH	Sungkon Chang		Tim Ellis	X
MATH	Lorrie Hoffman	X	Jared Shlieper	
MEDT	Charlotte Bates	X	Floyd Josephat	
NURS	Carole Massey	X	Amber Derksen	
NURS	Kathy Morris	X	Luzviminda Quirimit	
NURS	Tonya Tyson		Gina Crabb	
PHTH	AndiBeth Mincer	X	George Davies	
PSYCH	Wendy Wolfe	X	Mirari Elcoro	
RADS	Laurie Adams	X	Shaunell McGee	
RESP	Christine Moore	X	Rhonda Bevis	
Parliamentarian	Richard McGrath	X		

II. Ex-Officio Members and Guests Present

Linda Bleicken, President
 Anne Thompson, Academic Affairs
 David Carson, Business and Finance
 Scott Joyner, Advancement
 John Kraft, Academic Affairs
 William Kelso, Student Affairs
 Laura Barrett, COLA
 Shelly Conroy, CHP
 Robert Gregerson, CST
 Patricia Wachholz, COE
 Delana Nivens, CST
 Patricia Coberly-Holt, COE
 Teresa Winterhalter, Faculty Development
 Lee Davis, University Council

Appendix B

Faculty Senate Resolution 001.11/12: University Budget

Whereas fulfilling the goals articulated in the AASU strategic plan is best facilitated by collaboration between administrative staff and faculty; and

Whereas maintaining a climate of trust and collaboration between the administration, faculty, and staff is essential to effective shared governance; and

Whereas frank and open communication between administrative staff and the faculty regarding annual budget priorities is vital;

Be it resolved that the President will meet with the Senate leadership by mid-March each year to discuss anticipated funding priorities (ie. faculty salaries, special instructional initiatives, technological enhancement, and operational expenses) for the upcoming fiscal year in relation to long range goals articulated in the overall Strategic Plan and strategic initiatives for the year in question;

Be it further resolved that the President will meet with the Senate leadership by mid-September each year and present a managerial report of actual budget expenditures for the previous fiscal year in relation to the long range goals articulated in the overall Strategic Plan and strategic initiatives for the year in question.

Faculty Senate Bill 001.11/12: Graduation and Commencement Procedures

Preamble

Graduation is a time for reflection, a time to recognize the accomplishments of our students, and a time steeped in tradition. One of the most valued traditions of Armstrong's graduation ceremony was the granting of degrees by discipline. Both faculty and students cherished this tradition. During the course of their academic careers, our students build strong relationships with their fellow classmates within their discipline. They have a sense of pride in their collective accomplishment, and sitting together during graduation gives them one last chance to share in their achievements as they graduate. Additionally, having students grouped by discipline allows faculty within the various departments a last chance to snap a group photo of their students in their cap and gown and beaming with pride. This past spring that tradition was replaced with the awarding of degrees alphabetically by college, which meant that all of the pride and photos went away. The purpose of this Bill is to restore this highly valued tradition to Armstrong Atlantic State University's graduation ceremony.

Whereas graduation by discipline is a highly valued tradition by faculty and students, be it resolved that this tradition be reinstated for the fall and all subsequent graduation ceremonies at Armstrong Atlantic State University.